



GET READY, SANTA BARBARA!

Increasing emergency awareness and preparedness in our community

Social Media and Preparedness

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Upcoming Issues

APRIL
First Aid

MAY
30-2-Can Do

JUNE
Triage

JULY
Search and Rescue

AUGUST
Creating a Team



Social media is an important part of emergency preparedness and an incredibly effective and useful source for emergency information. Many government and non-profit agencies and groups have turned to social media to connect with the public to provide emergency information before, during and after a disaster. It is helpful to 'like' or 'follow' these agencies prior to a disaster so you will have immediate access to information as it is provided. Don't limit yourself to just these, this is just to get you started!

Agency	Twitter/NIXLE	Facebook
Santa Barbara City Office of Emergency Services	Coming Soon!	Santa Barbara City Office of Emergency Services
Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management	NIXLE	Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Services
Santa Barbara City Fire Department	@SBCityFirePIO	Santa Barbara City Fire Department
Red Cross Santa Barbara County Chapter	@SBRedCross	Red Cross Santa Barbara County Chapter
Santa Barbara City	@SBCity	NA
Southern California Gas Company	@SoCalGas	Southern California Gas Company
Southern California Edison	@SCE	Southern California Edison

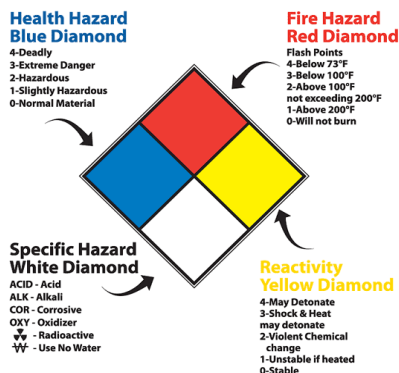
If you haven't already, consider joining [nextdoor.com](#) the city sponsored website that allows you to get in touch with your neighbors and receive city news via email. [Nixle.com](#) is another website used the SB County Office of Emergency Management, Santa Barbara City Police and others. Signing up with Nixle will allow you to get text alerts and emails (you can set your preferences) from one or both agencies. There is even a Nixle app you can download for your Smartphone!

12-Months to Preparedness— Practice!

Now that you have a plan, it's time for practice! Last month you wrote out your plan and shared it with your family; this month put it to the test! Surprise your family with a drill at a random time. Encourage them to use an unusual escape route such as a window or back door. Extra points if they have a flashlight and shoes already by the exit!

This month's item to purchase is food! Depending on the size of your family, you may need your entire budget this month. All food should be shelf stable for at least a few months. Try and buy a healthy mix of proteins (beans, nuts, jerky, etc.) and fruits and vegetables (canned or dried) but stick to items you know your family will eat. Granola bars or other meal supplement bars are also a good option as are soups and pastas. Don't forget comfort foods too like M&M's or gummy bears—the sugar will be useful in a disaster—especially for people in shock—and they'll make you feel better! Once you have purchased your food, keep a list of its expiration dates handy. That way you can eat and replace as necessary. Lastly, if you do purchase canned items remember to include a can opener in your kit! For more, check out the [CDC's website](#) or [Ready.gov](#).

Hazardous Materials



How to read a NFPA 704 Diamond

A material is considered hazardous if it has any of the following characteristics:

- ⇒ Corrodes other materials
- ⇒ Explodes or is easily ignited
- ⇒ Reacts strongly with water
- ⇒ Is unstable when exposed to heat or shock
- ⇒ Is toxic to humans, animals or the environment through absorption, inhalation, injection or ingestion.

It is important to know about hazardous materials and their locations in and around your home. Doing so will help keep you safe in the event of an accidental release or exposure. Read on to learn how to identify hazardous materials.

number at the bottom point ranging from 1-9 indicating what class of hazardous materials. Some classes have subclass, which is why you may see a placard with a number such as 5.1 mean class five, subclass one. Note, unlike the NFPA diamond, the higher the number does not mean the more the dangerous the material.

At the top point of the placard there may be another symbol indicating another characteristic of the material such as whether its poisonous or a compressed gas.

These placards are to alert first responders and other professionals to potential risks. Should you ever see, hear or smell anything unusual from an area displaying such a placard you should leave the area immediately and call 911.

In the event of a hazardous materials release or spill you may be asked to evacuate or to shelter in place. If asked to evacuate follow the designated routes for evacuation set forth by the responding agency. Deviating from these routes may put in you harms way either due to the projected path of the spill or because of wind. Only if time permits: close your windows and doors prior to leaving.

If asked to shelter in place do the following:

- ⇒ Bring pets inside
- ⇒ Close and lock all exterior doors and windows
- ⇒ Close all vents and fireplace dampers
- ⇒ Turn off air-conditioning and ventilation systems. In large buildings, set ventilation systems to 100% recirculation
- ⇒ Seal any gaps around windows, doors, pipes, exhaust fans, dryer vents and air conditioning units with wet paper towels or duct tape and plastic sheeting
- ⇒ If you have been exposed in your home take shallow breaths through a towel. Avoid eating or drinking anything that could be contaminated.

If you are caught outside, or in your car seek shelter in a permanent building that is upstream, uphill and upwind of the accident site. For more information on what to do during and after a spill check out [Ready.gov](#).

Chemicals that are not handled, stored, and disposed of properly create real hazards to people, animals, property, and the environment.

NFPA 704 Diamond Placards

The storage of hazardous materials is designated by the presence of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 704 Diamond, a concise system for identifying the hazards associated with specific materials. The diamond is divided into four colored quadrants. The bottom quadrant describes any special precautions that needed to be taken with that particular substance. The other three quadrants rate the substance (from 0-4) in the following categories:

- ⇒ Flammability (red quadrant)
- ⇒ Health Hazard (blue quadrant)
- ⇒ Reactivity (yellow quadrant)

The higher the number, the higher the risk!

DOT Placards

In the US, the transportation of hazardous materials, over 1,000 pounds, is designated by the presence of Department of Transportation (DOT) placard(s). Remember, these placards can be on any vehicle, not just tanker trucks.

DOT placards are different from NFPA 704 Diamond placards. The color indicates a characteristic of the material. Just to name a few, Red means it is flammable, orange is explosive, green is non-flammable and blue is dangerous when wet. DOT placards also have a



DOT Placard examples for transporting hazardous materials

Santa Barbara History—Guest Column

This month we have a guest columnist from SB City Information Systems employee Lesley Torgeson.

Just down the block from City Hall is a lovely little adobe with a fountain in the front courtyard. I've always admired this little building. I pass by it often as I walk between City Hall and the Garden Street complex. I was recently researching my family's genealogy and discovered that the little adobe at 707 Anacapa Street was the location of my great-grandfather Dixon H. MacQuiddy's construction office. He had set up shop downtown to take part in the rebuilding of Santa Barbara after the Earthquake of 1925.

MacQuiddy built several buildings downtown that are consistent with the Spanish architecture originally championed by Pearl Chase. One example of his work is the old Santa Barbara Mutual Bank & Loan building at the corner of State and Figueroa Streets. He was also involved in the construction of the building on the corner of Yanonali and Chapala Streets. It

was originally a Seaside Service Station with an adjoining restaurant and bakery. In the late 1930's it was remodeled and became the 7-Up bottling plant. The building, with its Spanish-style tower, has housed many businesses; one of which was a technology firm where I had my first job working with computer systems.

My great-grandfather went on to develop a housing tract on the north side of Santa Barbara, but is best known for his collaboration with the eccentric Moody Sisters and George Knapp. MacQuiddy built all of the quaint English cottages that Mildred and Harriet designed. Including "Pixie Cottage" on Periwinkle Lane where my mother grew up.

Do you have some Santa Barbara history you want to share? Maybe you have some interesting family history you want to share or maybe you have a question about something. We want to hear it! Send us your stories of, or questions about, Santa Barbara history to DDanetra@SantaBarbaraCA.gov.



The adobe at 707 Anacapa street, office of Dixon H. MacQuiddy, the author's great-grandfather.

Getting Involved—Search & Rescue

Join the Team— Established on January 1, 2001 the Santa Barbara County Search and Rescue team (SBCSAR) joined two previously independent teams, the Los Padres Search and Rescue team which served the south county, and the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Search and Rescue team which served north county.

What Moves Them— SBCSAR averages 80-100 calls per year. Anything from high-angle rock rescue, downed aircraft, to missing hiker and swift-water rescue can

be handled by SBCSAR who work in conjunction with several other local departments. SBCSAR even has two K9 teams that assist with calls.

How to Get Involved— Joining SBCSAR is not a small commitment. It becomes like a second job in terms of time, energy and mental challenge. Applicants are expected to be in peak physical shape and be comfortable in the wilderness in all types of weather. For more information view the SBCSAR website.



A member of SBCSAR repels with his dog during a training.

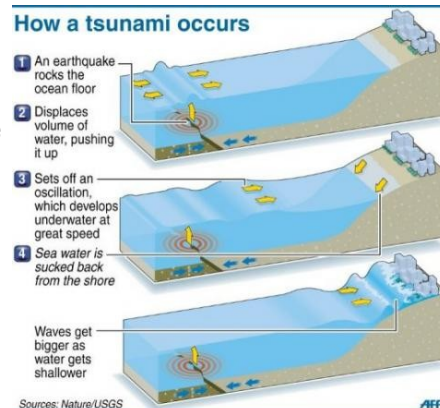
Preparedness—Tsunamis

Have you ever wondered what the impact of a tsunami would be for the City of Santa Barbara? In 2009, in an effort to model and predict the hazard a tsunami would pose on the State of California, tsunami maps were created for the entire coast. You can view the map for Santa Barbara [here](#) and Goleta [here](#). Fortunately, many residential areas are spared, unfortunately, the freeway, the airport and the sewage disposal plant are at risk for being affected.

Because tsunamis are generated by earthquakes it is important to remember that they may actually be a secondary disaster in some

locations with the earthquake being the primary disaster. If you feel an earthquake tune in to a trusted media outlet as soon as possible to get more information.

It is possible that you may never feel an earthquake that produces a tsunami so it is important to always be vigilant when in a tsunami zone. You can do this by signing up for text message alerts with USGS or a local media source (see cover article). If you can see the water, another sign that a tsunami is imminent is a sudden and significant retreat of water from the shore. If you see this, immediately head for higher ground.



Sources: Nature/USGS

How a tsunami develops
Diagram credit phys.org

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We're on the Web

www.santabarbaraca.gov/oes

Quiz Time—

1) Which of these was the deadliest hurricane in U.S. history?

- a) 1900 Galveston, TX Hurricane
- b) 1992 Hurricane Andrew
- c) 2005 Hurricane Katrina
- d) 1969 Hurricane Camille

2) What year did the US officially begin naming hurricanes?

- a) 1951
- b) 1958
- c) 1946
- d) 1964

3) How often is the [naming list](#) for hurricanes and storms recycled?

- a) Never
- b) Every 4 years
- c) Every 6 years
- d) Every 10 years

4) What is the name of the scale on which tornadoes are measured?

- a) Fuji Scale
- b) Fujita Scale
- c) Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale
- d) Richter Scale

5) Which of these was the costliest tornado in US history (adjusted for inflation)?

- a) Oklahoma City, OK 2003
- b) Topeka, KS 1966
- c) Lubbock, TX 1970
- d) Joplin, MO 2011






Answers: 1) a ; 2) b ; 3) c ; 4) b ; 5) d

City News—When does daylight savings time start? At 2 AM on Sunday, March 10, 2013, we "spring ahead" and set the clocks an hour forward, kicking off daylight savings time, or DST, and "losing an hour" of sleep, as folks are fond of saying. Daylight savings time represents an effort to save energy, as it shifts daylight during the winter months from the morning to the evening, resulting—in theory—in people using less power. While many credit Benjamin Franklin with the idea, since he encouraged folks to wake up early and take advantage of daylight, modern daylight savings time didn't come into being until 1916, during World War I, when Germany and its allied nations implemented the schedule change as a means of conserving coal for the war effort. The United States followed in 1918, and today, much of North America and Western Europe observe daylight savings time. This is also the time to change the batteries in our clocks and review the items in our Disaster/Preparedness Kits; including updating emergency numbers.



Upcoming Events

▶ March 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1  National Pig Day	2
3  National Anthem Day	4	5	6	7	8	9
10  DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME	11	12	13	14 National Pi Day π	15	16
17 St. Patrick's Day 	18	19	20	21	22	23  National Chip & Dip Day
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Take a Walk in the Park Day
31 Easter & Cesar Chavez Day 